

Date Mailed  
January 9, 2001

BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Joint Application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company and  
Wisconsin Gas Company for all Requisite Approvals in  
Connection with the Transfer of Wisconsin Electric Power  
Company's Gas Assets to Wisconsin Gas Company in Exchange  
for Stock

6650-SB-108  
05-BS-104

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING, INVESTIGATION, ASSESSMENT OF COSTS,  
AND PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

<b>Prehearing Conference Date:</b>	<b>Monday, January 22, 2001 – 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Conference Location:</b>	<b>Public Service Commission 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, WI (Amnicon Falls Hearing Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</b>

**THIS IS A PROCEEDING** to consider the joint application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company and Wisconsin Gas Company (applicants) filed November 1, 2000, for approval of the transfer of Wisconsin Electric Power Company's (WEPCO) gas assets to Wisconsin Gas Company (WGC) in exchange for WGC stock, including a certificate of approval to form a holding company under Wis. Stat. § 196.795(2), and all approvals as may be necessary for (i) WGC's issuance of common stock to WEPCO in exchange for WEPCO's gas assets; (ii) WGC's adoption of the gas rules, regulations and rates of WEPCO for the gas service areas now served by WEPCO; (iii) WGC's adoption of Commission orders establishing accounting, depreciation or other practices applicable to WEPCO's gas system operations, as currently applied by WEPCO; and (iv) any other action necessary relating to the rendering by WGC of retail gas service to the public in those portions of this state in which gas service was rendered by WEPCO prior to the merger, and the discontinuance of gas service by WEPCO.

Copies of the application, prefiled testimony, and exhibits may be obtained by written request to WEPCO at its office at 231 West Michigan Avenue, P.O. Box 2046, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-2046.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that the Commission will hold a prehearing conference on January 22, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. in the Amnicon Falls Hearing Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, and continuing at times to be set by the presiding Administrative Law Judge. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor (lobby) entrance. Parking for people with

disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact the case coordinator listed below.

The prehearing conference is being held to: (1) identify potential parties; (2) identify issues; (3) determine the date and time for a hearing; (4) specify dates for filing testimony and exhibits; and (5) any other matters that will facilitate the hearing.

Currently the joint applicants are the only parties to the proceeding. Parties will be bound by the designation of issues and the schedule adopted at the prehearing conference. Persons who consider themselves to be potential parties should attend the prehearing conference. Any person desiring to become a party shall file a request pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(2m) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.32(3) no later than January 17, 2001. The request shall be addressed to Administrative Law Judge Jeffry J. Patzke, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854.

This is a Class 1 proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a).

This is a Type III action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). Since no unusual circumstances have come to the attention of the Commission which indicate that significant environmental consequences are likely, neither an environmental impact statement under Wis. Stat. § 1.11 nor an environmental assessment is required.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeffrey L. Butson, Public Affairs Director at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Christine A. Swailes at (608) 266-8776.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

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Lynda L. Dorr  
Secretary to the Commission